Stated that negotiations on a multilateral framework on investment can take place after the Fifth Ministerial Conference in Cancun only on the basis of a decision to be taken, by explicit consensus, at that Conference on modalities of negotiations.

Based on the Doha Ministerial declaration, a clarificatory process is underway at the WTO in the Working Group on the Relationship between Trade and Investment and India has been participating in this process actively.

At present, some countries have suggested discussions on simple modalities on this issue for negotiations. India has expressed its concerns about the launch of negotiations based on simple modalities which do not give an idea of the nature and direction of obligations under a proposed agreement.

Financial AID to coffee growers

1498. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problem faced by coffee growers for the last three years;

(b) the measures taken to prevent plight of the Coffee Industry and growers in Karnataka; and

(c) whether he has given any promise to the growers during his visit to Karnataka in the month of September, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Concerned with the problems being faced by the Indian coffee growers due to the ongoing crisis caused by low prices, the Government of India has in the recent past taken a series of steps for the benefit of coffee sector which includes re-phasement of loans taken by the coffee growers from commercial banks, providing 5% interest relief to small growers and 3% interest relief to large coffee growers on their working capital loans taken from financial institutions, providing financial incentives for export of coffee and innovative marketing strategies in international as well as

domestic markets to arrest decline in exports and also to increase domestic consumption. All these steps are in addition to implementation of different coffee developmental schemes by the Coffee Board under which various types of financial and technical assistance are provided to the coffee growers.

Further, the Government of India has also set up a Price Stabilisation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 500 crore for the benefit of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco growers.

(c) No, Sir. However, the Union Minister of Finance visited coffee growing regions in Karnataka during September 2002 and made certain announcements relating to extension of time for repayment of Special Coffee Term Loans (SCTL), deferment of payment of interest portion of SCTL, setting up of Price Stabilisation Fund, setting up of an exclusive Plantation Development Cell in National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), extension of Antodya Scheme to coffee plantation labour etc. Action on most of the announcements has already been taken by the Government.

FDI with latest technology

1499. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how much FDI has been brought into the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of jobs created as a result thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether this FDI has also brought alongwith it the latest technology;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the efforts Government have made to get the latest technology;

(e) whether Government are motivating people abroad to bring FDI; and

(f) if so, what steps are being taken to invite FDI?